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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 13
49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY
Jim R. Trujillo

FOR THE WELFARE REFORM OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL
ENCOURAGING LOCAL SERVICES AND TELEHEALTH FUNDING FOR VETERANS'
MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, veterans throughout New Mexico have proudly
served their country in greater percentages than in most other
states; and

WHEREAS, veterans who return home often do not want to
live in cities where the level of noise and activity can become
overwhelming; and

WHEREAS, small towns throughout New Mexico are home to
veterans from World War II, the Korean Conflict, the Vietnam
Conflict, the first Gulf War and the conflicts in Afghanistan
and Iraq, among others; and

WHEREAS, veterans in small towns are unable to receive the
care they once received at home through local hospitals and

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1 local providers; and

2 WHEREAS, it makes little sense for veterans from all over
3 the state to be able to receive care only in the most populous
4 areas of the state; and

5 WHEREAS, veterans from the southeastern quadrant of the
6 state, in particular, have to leave before dawn, in some cases,
7 to catch a van that will take them to Albuquerque and bring
8 them back home after a day of waiting at the veterans'
9 hospital; and

10 WHEREAS, electronic medical consultations made available
11 through local health care and veterans' centers could save
12 time, money, gas and grief;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that all New Mexico departments that fund
15 programs for the state's veterans be requested to advocate for
16 the provision of health care that is locally available even in
17 New Mexico's smallest, most remote towns; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of health and
19 the human services department be requested to fund programs
20 that utilize telehealth providers to make physical and mental
21 health consultations available to veterans; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the secretaries of health, human services and
24 veterans' services and to the governor.

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